

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Developmental Disabilities Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska

Teleconference
Meeting Date
January 8, 2014
1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Art Delaune – Chair
Kim Champney
Dave Fleurant
Kathy Fitzgerald
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Alex Gimarc
Maureen Harwood
Christine King
Kaleene Lamb
Amanda Lofgren
Sharon Miranda
Ric Nelson
Sean O'Brien
Mark Romick

Staff:

Carrie Predeger
Patrick Reinhart

Minutes prepared by: Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order –1:00 p.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR
INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

Ric Nelson announced that he goes back to school next week.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ric Nelson **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2013 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Carrie Predeger reported that there was no correspondence since the last meeting. Patrick Reinhart commented that the notes from the transportation subcommittee meeting had been included with the meeting e-mail.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

Art Delaune stated that he has gotten on the e-mail list for AADD meetings, and will be attending them when he can. Art said that over the holidays, everyone has been getting ready to go to Juneau January 20th to 23rd.

Developmental Disabilities Program

Maureen Harwood reported that there are currently 687 people on the registry, and they are doing a draw of 30 this week.

Maureen said that SDS has been responding to the comments and questions about the regulation updates, and Duane Mayes will address some of the issues at the January meeting in Juneau.

AADD

Kim Champney reported that AADD has formed a work group to work with the Office of Rate Review on the new rate regulations. Kim said that the state has extended by 18 months the timeline of changing the way services are reimbursed, which will allow providers to better estimate the cost of doing business.

Kim Champney stated that the biggest issue in the provider world currently is the new MMIS billing system that was implemented in October and is still having significant problems. Kim said that they decided to have that issue be the only item on the agenda for the monthly meeting on January 9. AADD's next meeting will be the face-to-face in Juneau on February 10th, the day before Key Campaign starts.

Kim announced that AADD is currently recruiting its first executive director, and they hope to be able to announce who it will be at the February meeting.

Key Coalition

Patrick Reinhart noted that Key Coalition will be in Juneau on February 11th and 12th, and that the Governor's Council spent \$5,000 on airfare for people who wanted to attend.

Council and Executive Committee Update

Ric Nelson reported that the Executive Committee has been preparing for the Juneau meeting. Patrick Reinhart informed committee members that Michelle has been out of the office caring for her son, who was in a car accident, so everything is taking a little more time and energy for other people. Patrick asked everyone to be patient at this time and to pray for Michelle's son.

Peer Power

Ric Nelson said that Peer Power is having its board meeting next Tuesday, and they have opened a bank account at Wells Fargo.

FASD Work Group

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus reported that the FASD work group had a meeting on short notice the day before this DD Committee meeting. Patrick Pillai from SESA, Aileen McGinnis from the Alaska Center for Resource Families, Chris Smith from Volunteers of America, Tommy O'Malley, and Christie Reinhardt attended, and they talked about what is needed and who should be involved, and they went over the main issues surrounding FASD. Jeanne also remarked that the Trust has started a new focus area involving alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment, noting that FASD is 100 percent preventable. However, the Council's work group will be focusing on gaps in services for people affected by FASD.

Housing

Mark Romick reported that Rich Sanders and Patrick Reinhart had a meeting with Mike Courtney, AHFC's director of operations, about employment opportunities that might arise from the training work that public housing is doing.

Mark stated that AHFC's budget was submitted by the Governor about the same as last year, with only a few cuts. They have awarded funds to 179 units around the state, a combination of senior housing, family housing, new construction, and rehab. Mark noted that all the projects that they fund are now required to meet the Section 504 requirements, so a certain percentage of them are equipped for vision and hearing impairments and physical impairments.

Mark announced that this week AHFC selected a development partner for a new 70-unit development on the ridgeline overlooking the Glenn Square Mall, which will be comprised of one- and two-bedroom units close to services and transportation.

Mark Romick also mentioned that the Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center had closed, and they had had a number of housing properties that AHFC had funded. One of these properties is vacant and a group has suggested opening a project for women with kids with FASD. Mark said that committee members should be aware of this so that when the RFI goes out, if they know any community groups that might be interested in submitting a proposal, they could spread the word.

OLD BUSINESS

I/DD Registration Review

Maureen Harwood said that she sent an e-mail to Teresa Holt in December, and Teresa responded with some questions, which Maureen answered. Carrie Predeger added that Teresa is planning a meeting in February, but the date has not been set yet.

NEW BUSINESS

Governor's Proposed FY 15 Budget

Carrie Predeger pointed out a few items of interest to this committee in the proposed budget. She stated that the Complex Behavioral Collaborative was not included in the budget, so that would be the number one priority at the Juneau meeting. Also, the PCN, or state employee position number, for the Council's legislative intern was eliminated, and Teresa Holt has been working to try to get it reinstated.

Council Priorities for Upcoming Legislative Session

Patrick Reinhart reported that the Legislative Committee has prepared the position papers for the three top priorities, which are the Complex Behavioral Collaborative, the Keeping Alaska Kids Safe (restraint and seclusion) bill, and the Employment First bill. Patrick said that the two bills sponsored by Representative Millett would be prefiled and have numbers assigned to them on Friday, January 10th. Patrick added that Ric and Dean are scheduled to present the three priorities to the Anchorage legislative caucus, including both Republicans and Democrats, at the Loussac Library on Saturday, January 11th.

Upcoming Meetings

The Governor's Council face-to-face meeting will be in Juneau on January 21st to 23rd, preceded by the retreat on the 20th.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next DD Committee meeting will be on February 5th from 1 to 3 p.m.

Other Information for the Good of the Order

Patrick Reinhart reported that he and Carrie and Ric met at Access Alaska with Andrew Sandusky from SDS, Misty Rail from ATLA, and two people from Health Care Services about reusing and recycling durable medical equipment. They all agreed that it is feasible, but it will take a few months to develop a framework for a possible program in Alaska. Patrick said that there is energy and enthusiasm about the idea.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.